

WEATHER
Fair to-day; to-morrow increasing
cloudiness, with probable showers
at night. Moderate north-
west winds, becom-
ing variable.
Full Report on Page 6

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First to Last—the Truth: News · Editorials · Advertisements

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1917

CIRCULATION
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Spies Notified Berlin as U. S. Flotilla Left

Admiral Sims Reports That
Mines Were Placed in
Path of Vessels
Secret Agents Here
Plotted Destruction
Germans Knew Port De-
stroyers Were Bound to
Four Days Ahead

(From The Tribune Bureau)
Washington, May 25.—Mines were placed in the path of the American destroyer fleet which recently went abroad because accurate information had been sent to Berlin four days before the arrival of the warships, not only that they were on their way, but to what port they were bound.
Admiral Sims reported this information to the Navy Department today. The port of entrance of the destroyers, he says, was mined the day previous to their arrival.
No newspaper printed the facts that these destroyers had sailed.
The information that German spies not only still are at their work in this country, but that they have a swift and sure means of communicating America's war secrets to the Fatherland, is positively known, according to Admiral Sims. His dispatch was not made public, and for obvious reasons nothing will be given out concerning how the news came into his possession; nor about the precautions which defeated the Germans' plans and enabled the flotilla to speed safely through the mine field.
Immediate publicity was given the salient fact, however, to let the people know of the activity and success of American spies, and to emphasize the necessity for absolute secrecy in connection with naval operations or shipping movements.
Departure Kept Secret
The destroyers now sailing in the West for submarines in European waters under the direction of Admiral Sims, put into port at Queenstown on May 16. How long they were in crossing the Atlantic or from what port they sailed never has been announced, and until word of their arrival came by cable only a few people in the United States knew of the government's decision to send warships to Europe.
No official word came to-night on the possible means by which the news was conveyed to Germany. If it did not go from a secret wireless plant, it must have been carried in some code dispatch that the Allied cable censors passed as innocent.
The result will be to redouble the vigilance both of the censors and of every agency of the government engaged in intercepting the spy system. Every German known to have been connected with the espionage work of his government already is under arrest or under surveillance. Other arrests may follow at any time, and now that the country is at war and the revelations of its secrets may mean death to its sailors and soldiers, swift punishment undoubtedly will be dealt out to any convicted spy.

Italy Sweep on Along Whole Line; Take 1,245 Men

Austrian Attacks Repelled;
British Fleet Aids
Advance

DAY'S DEVELOPMENTS
Italian offensive continues from Plava to the Adriatic. Cadorna's troops extend gains over seven-and-a-half-mile front on Southern Carso and press forward north of Gorizia; 10,245 prisoners taken.
Vienna admits small Italian gains. Claims 4,000 prisoners in counter attacks.
French lost last line trenches near Braye, on Aisne front, south of Laon. Occupied most of Chevreux wood, southeast of Laon.
British seize German advanced trenches between Loos and Lens. Artillery fire and preliminary skirmishing suggest coming blow to French.
Eastern front quiet, except for scouting and rifle fire.
Pause in Allies' Balkan offensive.

Spies Dangerous Now

Men now in custody operated when the United States was a neutral. Spying now is a very different thing and is not to be compared with the old kind of comfortable detention quarters.
Notwithstanding this the Navy Department in a statement given out tonight issued the mild warning based on Germany's discovery of the sailing.
"The department calls attention to the fact as proof that the German spy system is still at work in this country, making imperative the need of secrecy in connection with our naval operations. The premature publication of ship movements is particularly a source of danger."
The department, while realizing that newspapers did not give this information, would be pleased if the fact were brought to the attention of editors by way of showing what extreme care is required in shielding military information from the enemy, whether it be made public through the press or otherwise.

"No Warships Lost," Daniels Declares, Replying to Rumors

Secretary Renews Promise of
Complete Information When
Naval Losses Occur

Washington, May 25.—A denial that any American naval vessels have been sunk in the war was issued to-night by Secretary Daniels to counteract what he called "a campaign of vicious rumors that is being carried on so industriously by persons unknown."
It was the first official notice to be taken of reports of naval disasters that started as soon as it was known that American destroyers were in the war zone.
"It is with deep regret," said the Secretary, "that I note the daily stream of false reports with regard to the sinking of American ships. Brokerage wars are a particular source for these baseless rumors that cannot but be the cause of needless distress to every true American, as well as to the mothers and fathers of the nation who have sons at sea."
The department has given repeated assurance that its policy is to be one of absolute frankness with respect to disaster. If it should be that ships are sunk, full information will be given out officially and quickly.
"The reason for these false reports cannot be ascertained. The one hope is that the press will refuse to aid this campaign of vicious rumor that is being carried on so industriously by persons unknown."

IS IT IRELAND OR ENGLAND THAT HAS BEEN FREED?



First American Military Unit Now on Battle Front in France

Cornell Men in Field Service Corps at the Aisne—Third Section on the Way—Dartmouth Football Stars Command Detachment—Many College Men in the Ranks

Paris, May 25.—An American military unit is now at the front, facing the Germans on the battlefield of the Aisne. News was flashed here to-day that a combatant corps under Captain E. L. Tinkham, who won the War Cross at Verdun, and Lieutenant Scully had pitched camp and unfurled the Stars and Stripes just back of the French guns preparatory to taking up their work of keeping the munition supply moving.
Captain Tinkham is a resident of Montclair, N. J., and is a Cornell man who is serving his second term of war service.
That the American Field Service intends to throw all its men toward the front at the earliest possible moment is indicated by the departure yesterday of the third military transport section for the training camp behind the fighting lines. It was under the command of Horton Kennedy, of Hanover, Mass., last year's manager of the Dartmouth football team, and F. J. Dussossoy, captain of the same team.
The Associated Press correspondent at the grand headquarters of the French army describes the departure of the first detachment, consisting mostly of Cornell undergraduates, for the lines along the Aisne.
A Proud Moment
It was a proud moment, he says, and continues:
"They were armed with carbines, attired in khaki uniforms and drove American five-ton motor cars. As they left the Stars and Stripes, floating over the cantonment in an historic French forest, spread out in the breeze, and other contingents cheered them on their way. Clarence Mackay presented to the camp the American flag which now flies beside the Tricolor."
The correspondent watched other American sections drilling in preparation for active participation in the fighting. Among them were detachments from Andover, Dartmouth, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Yale, Chicago and Williams colleges, while a large body from Princeton was awaiting organization. Lieutenant Daly, captain of the Yale football team of 1910, and Lieutenant William Taylor, of New York, were busy putting one section into shape, while Lieutenant Kennedy supervised another.
"French officers and Lieutenant J. W. Oetheimer, of Philadelphia, who won his rank in the French army, in which he enlisted at the outbreak of the war, have been appointed instructors of the Americans at the central training school. Some sections are drilled according to the French method and others according to the American."

Zeal of U. S. Sailors Stirs British Navy

By ARTHUR S. DRAPER
London, May 25.—The work of the American destroyers has already awakened the admiration of the British navy. In connection with the optimistic statement of the U-boat situation by Premier Lloyd George in the Commons to-day, a high British naval officer told me that the keenness, enthusiasm and eagerness for work among both officers and men of the American flotilla was becoming one of the chief topics of talk among British sailors. He added that he believed the American efforts were likely to be rewarded at any moment.
It is practically certain that the German output does not exceed three submarines a week, if it always reaches that number, while it is commonly accepted that a submarine spends three weeks at the dock for every week at sea.
The heavy casualties of April probably account for a record number of U-boats operating simultaneously. Possibly June will see a recrudescence of this drive, but by then the new British offensive measures should be operating to their fullest extent.

Brazilian Fleet To Police Atlantic; Neutrality to End

Rio de Janeiro, May 25.—According to the "Jornal do Comercio," it was decided at a meeting of the parliament and diplomatic commissions, called yesterday by the Foreign Minister, to adopt the principle of revocation of the Brazilian neutrality in the war between the United States and Germany and to police the South Atlantic with the Brazilian fleet.
A bill providing for revocation of the decree of neutrality will be presented to the chamber to-morrow. It is believed that the Chamber, whose tendencies to enlarge the political horizon of Brazil have been more and more in evidence, will demand incorporation of a clause giving wide powers to the government.
It is stated that Parliament will order the confiscation of all German ships in Brazilian ports as soon as the official report of the inquiry into the torpedoing of the Brazilian steamer *Tijuca*, made at Bordeaux, is received.

Goethals Says Wooden Ships Are Impossible

Tells Steel Manufacturers of
Obstacles He Found at
Washington
Contracts Promised,
But No Plans Made
\$50,000,000 Appropriated,
But No Bonds Sold—Aid
for Steel Craft Pledged

Major General George W. Goethals, head of the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation, described to the members of the American Iron and Steel Institute at the Waldorf-Astoria last night the obstacles which he encountered when he went to Washington to take charge of building 3,000,000 tons of wooden ships.
He told how the birds were nesting in the trees that were to go into those ships, of his vain search for some definite plans or specifications, of hazy plans for raising \$50,000,000 that had taken no concrete shape, and, finally, of convincing the Administration of the futility of the plan.
He concluded his brief talk by a stirring appeal for cooperation of the nation's industries, and when he had finished 800 men who control the steel production and manufacture of the nation stood to a man and pledged themselves to do everything in their power to help General Goethals win the war.

Not on Regular Programme

The presence of General Goethals at the dinner of the American Iron and Steel Institute had not been announced, and few in the banquet hall were aware that he was there until Elbert H. Gary, who presided, called upon him to say a few words. The man who built the Panama Canal was greeted with applause, and when he had finished those present took part in a demonstration that lasted for several minutes.
Mr. Gary then called upon them for the rising pledge of support.
Earlier in the day Mr. Gary had made a stirring appeal to the members of the institute to pledge their full support to the government, and the speakers who had preceded General Goethals at the dinner spoke on cooperation in the nation's war plans.

Goethals Tells His Troubles

"As I need cooperation in my work, I concluded I would tell you my troubles and ask your help," said General Goethals. "On the principle of selective draft, I have again been called to the front. I found myself confronted with a programme of turning out 1,000,000 tons of ships in eighteen months. They were going to be of wood because it was said steel was not procurable. I found myself confronted with a proposition that contracts to build these ships had been promised in all directions, but when I looked for plans and specifications I found none."
"Gentlemen, I am now in the trees that were to go into these ships, and that these ships must have a speed of not less than ten and a half knots if they are to escape the submarines, the proposition was simply hopeless."
"In that contingency I came to New York and saw Mr. Farrell (president of the United States Steel Corporation) and was assured by him that steel was procurable. I then announced the impossibility of the wooden ship programme and asked for permission to change to steel. I finally succeeded in getting it."
Campaign for Money
"For the building of these ships \$50,000,000 had been appropriated, to be obtained by the sale of Panama Canal bonds. No effort had yet been made to sell these bonds, so I began a campaign for money. As I have frequently announced that I considered all boards as long, narrow and wooden, I procured authority to get help of Mr. Money and authority are now being discussed by the House Committee on Appropriations, and they promise that in ten days or two weeks I will get my money."

Three Receive War Cross

Raymond Harper, of Princeton; John Heilbut, of Paris, and James Austin Liddell, of Newton Centre, Mass., belonging to the Field Service, have just received the War Cross. Liddell was cited for an act of bravery occurring on the first day of his service at the front. His car was hit several times by the fire of the enemy's machine guns. Harper was cited for the execution of a perilous mission in December last.

Will Help Win War

"Lloyd George has said ships will win the war. If he is right, then every one who helps complete these ships will help win the war."
When the cheering and waving of flags which greeted the end of General Goethals' speech had subsided Mr. Gary announced some days ago that the United States Steel Corporation would assist the government with all its power. I now ask every steel man in the room who feels that way to stand up."
Not a person remained seated.
Mr. Gary, who called the institute to order at the morning session, urged the need of wholehearted national mobilization to oppose a powerful foe.
The government, he thought, was progressing in the right direction and at a satisfactory rate as was possible, considering its difficulties.
Its willingness to enlist business leaders as advisers, Mr. Gary considered a hopeful sign. He pledged the aid of the iron and steel industry, and announced the appointment of a committee to coordinate the work of the National Defense, consisting of himself, James A. Farrell, James Burden, E. A. S. Clarke, A. C. Dinkey, Willis L. King, Charles M. Schwab and John A. Topp.

Drastic Bill Forbids Trade With Enemy

Congress Asked to Follow
British Course Regarding
War Commerce
Alien Patents
To Be Utilized
Prompt Passage of Measure
Drafted by Cabinet Is
Predicted

Washington, May 25.—The administration's trading with the enemy bill was introduced in the House to-day by Representative Adamson, chairman of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. It is modelled somewhat after the British act, and would forbid and penalize trading with Americans with enemies, directly or indirectly.
The measure also would authorize utilization of patents held by alien enemies, and provide for the care and disposition of enemy property until the war is over.

Early Passage Urged

Members of the Cabinet and other officials participated in conferences which preceded the drafting of the bill, which is to be pressed for passage as soon as other war measures are out of the way.
Violation of the trading with the enemy section would be punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment of not more than ten years, or both. The section would make it unlawful for any person in the United States, except under a license from the Secretary of Commerce, to trade or attempt to trade, or to have any business or commercial intercourse whatever, directly or indirectly, with a citizen or any enemy country or the ally of an enemy.

To Guard Aliens' Property

The bill proposes the appointment of an alien property custodian, whose duty it would be to take over and administer the property of aliens prevented from handling their own affairs by war conditions.
The section relating to patents would authorize the Federal Trade Commission to grant to American citizens or corporations a license to use patents held by an enemy, the licensee to pay over to the alien property custodian at stated times 5 per cent of the value of the property so used.
An enemy or ally of an enemy would be permitted to file applications for patents or trade mark registrations as usual, and those unable to file such applications during the war or within four months thereafter would be granted an extension of nine months, provided the country of which they are citizens accords substantially the same treatment to Americans.

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Sees Treason in Socialism

Dean of Fond du Lac Cathedral Quits Party
Rev. B. I. Bell, dean of St. Paul's Cathedral (Episcopal), to-day resigned from the Socialist party. His statement to the secretary of the Socialist party says:
"My reason for this step is that the party stands to-day committed to policies in relation with the war which seem to me to be not merely treasonable to the United States, but deadly to the very things which all Socialists hold dear. I am a Socialist, and I believe in democracy and internationalism. None of these things will come until the power of German, Austrian and Turkish capitalism is humbled. Socialism will come, but not through the spread of Hapsburg or Hohenzollern Kultur."

War Tasks Allotted In America's First Foreign Alliance

Lloyd George Says
U-Boat Campaign
Is Bound to Fail
Danger Not Over, Premier Admits, but British Are Winning, He Declares
Ship Question the Biggest Problem Discussed in Six Weeks' Conferences
Munitions Control And Loans Settled
Friendly Co-operation of Nations Assured as Balfour Leaves

(By The Associated Press)
Washington, May 25.—The British war mission left American soil and crossed into Canada to-day, after six weeks of conferences which have reached into every phase of American life and are expected vitally to affect the future of this country, if not of the world.
His speech was more optimistic than any of his previous utterances on the subject, although he made it clear that the danger still remained. Despite the improved record during May, he placed great emphasis on the necessity of every individual aiding in trying to defeat the U-boats.
Incidentally the House received very warmly his tribute to the work of the American destroyers.

Tribute to American Aid

"Now that the American nation is in the war it is easier to make arrangements for the protection of our mercantile marine than it was before."
The Premier added:
"I see that to-day the Germans are depending mainly on submarine warfare for success. All I can say is that if that is their main hope of success they are doomed to disappointment. I say it with a full sense of responsibility, and on behalf of the government, after full consideration of the whole facts. That does not mean that the people should not economize; that farmers need not plough their land. It means that if every one does his duty the German hope of triumph in the war based on submarines is the greatest miscalculation of the whole series of miscalculations that have inspired. If every one does his duty patriotically, each in his own way to the common stock, then I say the submarine is not going to defeat us."

Reports "Substantial Progress"

"It is much more difficult for me to give a public answer on this than on any other topic. It is very difficult for me to give information without to a certain extent revealing things which we had better keep to ourselves. All I can say is that we are making substantial progress."
"It is true, we are not through with the month of May, but if the ratio of losses during the last twenty-five days is not exceeded the result of the month of April will be very considerable. Indeed, there does not seem to be any reason to anticipate any worse figures in the coming week. The arrangements made for the submarine campaign have been increasingly efficient."
The Premier then made his reference to American assistance, which was loudly cheered.

Munitions Control Centralized

Munitions control and purchase will be similarly centralized through the Allied buying committee, though without price control. The Council of National Defence has charged itself with so increasing manufacture as to provide for the American war army without cutting off exports vitally needed abroad.
The United States is considering the invitation extended by the British that all the Allies send permanent representatives to sit on the Allied commissions in London, including those on wheat, munitions, shipping and general supplies.

Loans to Great Britain

In finance the mission has secured government loans to England at 3 1/2 per cent, or at cost to this government and at a saving of 1 1/2 to 2 per cent to the British.
Agreement on Trade Matters
The most far-reaching understanding arrived at have been in trade matters. In general the United States will give the Allies preferential treatment in commerce. Details, however, could not be agreed on, as Congress has not yet passed the legislation necessary to deal with embargo, trading with the enemy, control of cargo space and the like.
A joint Allied buying commission is expected to attend the conferences and sit here regularly in conjunction with separate bodies in London. They will assure uniform prices for all the Allies, prevent extortion because of competition and distribute supplies scientifically and economically.

U. S. Will Help in Blockade

The United States will cooperate as far as possible in maintaining the British blockade. America will participate through consuls in the rationing of Holland and Scandinavia, but probably will replace the present system of British "letters of assurance" by a system of export licenses. As far as possible the enormous system built up by the British will be maintained and means will be taken to prevent American products from reaching France dealing regularly with the enemy.

Military Results

The military results of the mission are involved with those of the French mission and the plans of the American General Staff. It is very difficult, therefore, to say just what should be attributed to the visit of the British. Undoubtedly the French were largely responsible for the decision to send at once to France an expeditionary force of about 25,000 men, a division of nine regiments of railroad engineers and six base hospitals.
The British visitors, however, were